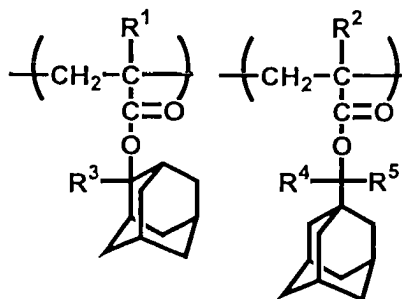


What is claimed is:

1. A chemical amplification type positive resist composition comprising:

(A) a resin which itself is insoluble or poorly soluble in an alkali aqueous solution but becomes soluble in an alkali aqueous solution by the action of an acid, and which contains a structural unit derived from p-hydroxystyrene and a structural unit represented by the formula (Ia) or (Ib)



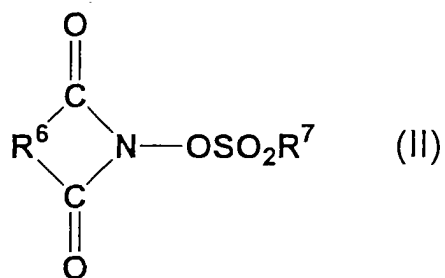
(Ia)

(Ib)

wherein R^1 and R^2 each independently represents hydrogen or methyl, and R^3 to R^5 each independently represents alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms; and

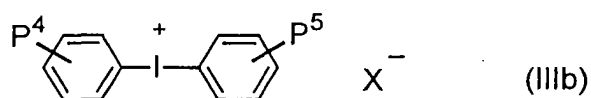
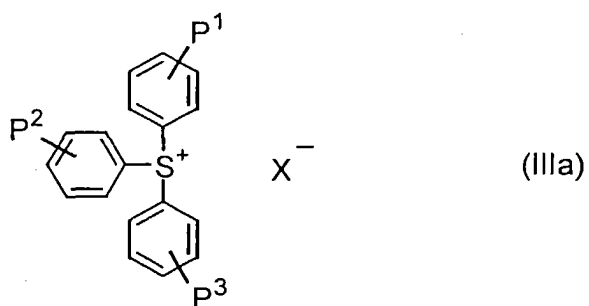
(B) radiation-sensitive acid generator comprising sulfonic acid ester of N-hydroxyimide compound; and onium salt.

2. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said sulfonic acid ester of N-hydroxyimide compound is a compound represented by the formula (II):



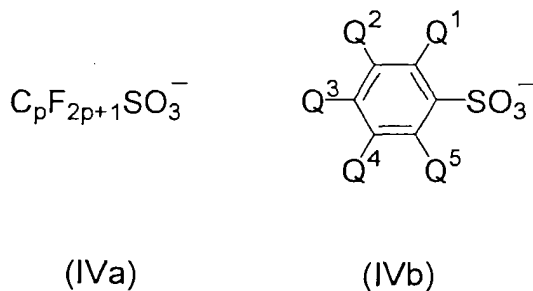
wherein R^6 represents arylene which may be substituted, alkylene which may be substituted or alkenylene which may be substituted, and R^7 represents alkyl which may be substituted or aryl which may be substituted.

3. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said onium salt is a salt represented by the formula (IIIa) or (IIIb):

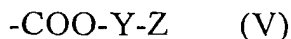


wherein P^1 to P^5 each independently represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or alkoxy having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, X^- represents a counter ion.

4. The composition according to Claim 3, wherein said counter ion X^- is an ion represented by the following formula (IVa) or (IVb):



wherein p represents an integer of 1 to 8, and Q^1 to Q^5 each independently represents hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, perfluoroalkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, electron-withdrawing group, or a group represented by the formula (V):



wherein Y represents alkylene having 1 to 16 carbon atoms in which $-\text{CH}_2-$ other than that binding to the adjacent $-\text{COO}-$ group may be substituted by $-\text{S}-$ or $-\text{O}-$, and Z represents hydrogen or alicyclic hydrocarbon having 3 to 20 carbon atoms.

5. The composition according to Claim 3, wherein a weight ratio of the sulfonic acid ester of N-hydroxyimide compound represented by the formula (II) to the total onium salt of the formula (IIIa) and the formula (IIIb) is 9:1 to 1:9.
6. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the radiation-sensitive acid generator (B) is contained at 0.3 to 50 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the resin (A).
7. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein a nitrogen-containing basic organic compound is further contained as a quencher.